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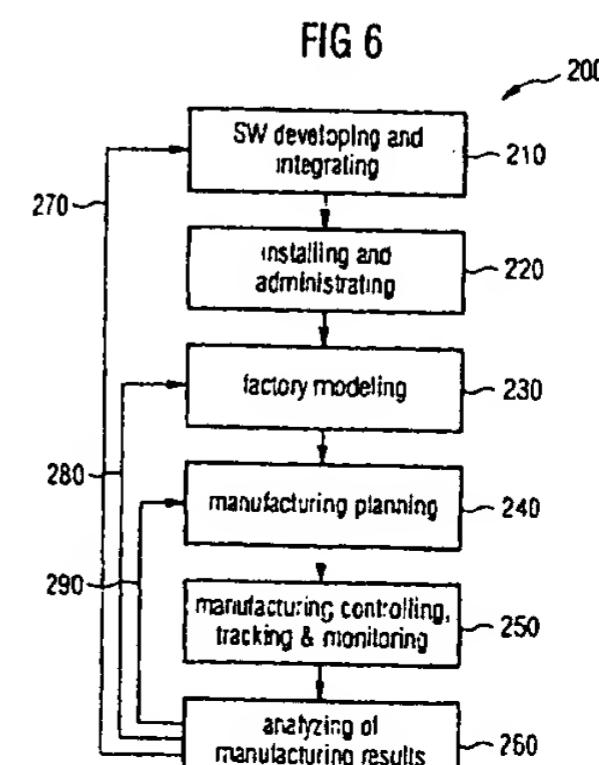
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(54) Computer integrated manufacturing techniques

(57) The present invention provides a novel distributed factory system framework including a novel factory automation lifecycle (200) having lifecycle activities for SW developing and integrating (210), installing and administrating (220), factory modeling (230), manufacturing planning (240), manufacturing controlling, monitoring and tracking (250) and analyzing of manufacturing results (260). The factory lifecycle comprises framework components. The distributed factory system framework also includes application components and SW building blocks. The framework components are adapted for managing the application components, while the application components are utilized to provide instructions for managing a process such as a wafer fab. The building blocks are adapted for forming or modifying framework and application components. The distributed factory system framework provides computer implemented

methods for integrating processing systems and facilitates process and equipment changes.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 00 11 5577

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G05B
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
MUNICH	27 September 2001	Helot, H	
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X : particularly relevant if taken alone	I : theory or principle underlying the invention		
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P : intermediate document	& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document		

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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